

What is claimed is:

1. A system for updating a clock in an electronic device, comprising:
  - a receiver system having an input for receiving a real time signal and having an output from which is provided digital information representative of the real time signal;
  - an extraction module operatively coupled to the receiver system, the extraction module extracting at least a current time value from the digital information; and
  - an update module operatively coupled to the extraction module, the update module updating the clock in the electronic equipment when the current time value of the digital information differs from a current value of the clock in the electronic equipment.
2. The system according to claim 1, wherein the system further comprises a validating unit that is operatively coupled between the extraction module and the update module, the validating unit comparing channel identification data derived from the digital information to time zone data in the electronic equipment, the time zone data being indicative of a time zone in which the electronic equipment is currently located.
3. The system according to claim 2, wherein the clock is updated only when the comparison indicates that a station identified by the channel identification data is in the same time zone as the electronic equipment.

4. The system according to claim 3, wherein the real time signal is a television signal, and wherein the channel identification data and the current time value are contained in a vertical blanking interval of the television signal.
5. The system according to claim 3 wherein the real time signal is a digital television signal, and wherein the channel identification data and the current time value are contained in a data payload of the digital transport stream.
6. The system according to claim 4, wherein the extraction module extracts the channel identification data and the current time value from the vertical blanking interval of the television signal.
7. The system according to claim 1, wherein the clock is updated when the current time value of the display data differs by a predetermined amount from a current value of the clock in the electronic equipment.

8. A system for updating an interval clock in a computer, comprising:
  - a tuner having an input that receives a real time analog television signal;
  - a video decoder operatively coupled to the tuner, the video decoder converting the analog television signal to a digital television signal;
  - a vertical blanking interval decoder coupled to the frame buffer, the vertical blanking interval decoder deriving information data from the display data that is indicative of information stored in a vertical blanking interval of the television signal;
  - an extraction module operatively coupled to the receiver system, the extraction module extracting at least time stamp information and channel identification information from the information data;
  - a validating unit that is operatively coupled to the extraction module, the validating unit comparing channel identification data derived from the information data to time zone data in the computer, the time zone data being indicative of a time zone in which the computer is currently located; and
  - an update module operatively coupled to the extraction module, the update module updating the clock in the computer when a current value of the current time value of the display data differs from a current value of the clock in the computer and when the comparison indicates that a station identified by the channel identification data is in the same time zone as the computer.

9. The system according to claim 8, wherein the channel identification data and the current time value are contained in a vertical blanking interval of the television signal.
10. The system according to claim 8, wherein the clock is updated when the current time value of the display data differs by a predetermined amount from a current value of the clock in the computer.

11. The system according to claim 8, wherein the clock is updated when the current time value of the display data differs by a predetermined amount from a current value of the clock in the computer.

11. A system for updating an interval clock in a computer, comprising:
  - a tuner having an input that receives a real time analog television signal;
  - a video decoder operatively coupled to the tuner, the video decoder converting the analog television signal to a digital television signal ;
  - a capture engine operatively coupled to the video decoder, the capture engine converting the digital television signal to display data in a frame buffer;
  - an extraction module operatively coupled to the frame buffer, the extraction module having optical character recognition capability for extracting at least current time information from the display data; and
  - an update module operatively coupled to the extraction module, the update module updating the clock in the computer when a current value of the current time value of the display data differs from a current value of the clock in the computer.
12. The system according to claim 11, wherein the system further comprises a module for selecting an area on a display containing a time box.
13. The system according to claim 11, wherein the clock is updated only when the comparison indicates that a station identified by the channel identification data is in the same time zone as the computer.
14. The system according to claim 11, wherein the clock is updated when the current time value of the display data differs by a predetermined amount from a current value of the clock in the computer.

15. A method for updating a clock in an electronic device, comprising:
  - receiving a real time signal and providing therefrom digital information representative of the real time signal;
  - extracting at least a current time value from the digital information; and
  - updating the clock in the electronic equipment when a current value of the current time value of the digital information differs from a current value of the clock in the electronic equipment.
16. The method according to claim 15, wherein the method further comprises the step of comparing channel identification data derived from the digital information to time zone data in the electronic equipment, the time zone data being indicative of a time zone in which the electronic equipment is currently located.
17. The method according to claim 16, wherein the clock is updated only when the comparison indicates that a station identified by the channel identification data is in the same time zone as the electronic equipment.
18. The method according to claim 17, wherein real time signal is a television signal, and wherein the channel identification data and the current time value are contained in a vertical blanking interval of the television signal.
19. The method according to claim 18, wherein the method further comprises the step of extracting the channel identification data and the current time value from the vertical blanking interval of the television signal.

20. A method for updating an interval clock in a computer, the computer having a tuner having an input that receives a real time analog television signal, a video decoder operatively coupled to the tuner, the video decoder converting the analog television signal to a digital television signal, comprising the steps of:

deriving information data from the digital television signal that is indicative of information stored in a vertical blanking interval of the television signal;

extracting at least time stamp information and channel identification information from the information data;

comparing the channel identification data derived from the information data to time zone data in the computer, the time zone data being indicative of a time zone in which the computer is currently located; and

updating the clock in the computer when a current value of the current time value of the information stored in the vertical blanking interval differs from a current value of the clock in the computer and when the comparison indicates that a station identified by the channel identification data is in the same time zone as the computer.

21. The method according to claim 20, wherein the channel identification data and the current time value are contained in a vertical blanking interval of the television signal.



23. A method for updating an interval clock in a computer, the computer having a tuner having an input that receives a real time analog television signal, a video decoder operatively coupled to the tuner, the video decoder converting the analog television signal to a digital television signal, and a capture engine operatively coupled to the video decoder, the capture engine converting the digital television signal to display data, comprising the steps of:

extracting at least current time information from the display data using optical character recognition; and

updating the clock in the computer when a current value of the current time value of the display data differs from a current value of the clock in the computer.

24. The method according to claim 23, wherein the method further comprises the step of comparing channel identification data derived from the display data to time zone data in the computer, the time zone data being indicative of a time zone in which the computer is currently located.
25. The method according to claim 23, wherein the clock is updated only when the comparison indicates that a station identified by the channel identification data is in the same time zone as the computer.

26. A system for updating an interval clock in a computer, comprising:
- a tuner having an input that receives a digital television signal having a transport stream;
  - a digital television demodulator to decode the transport stream;
  - a transport stream parser to separate PSIP data from the transport stream;
  - an extraction module operative to derive information data from the PSIP data;
  - and
  - an update module operatively coupled to the extraction module, the update module updating the clock in the computer when a current value of the current time value of the information data differs from a current value of the clock in the computer.
27. The system according to claim 26, wherein the system further comprises a validating unit that is operatively coupled between the extraction module and the update module, the validating unit comparing channel identification data derived from the information data to time zone data in the computer, the time zone data being indicative of a time zone in which the computer is currently located.
28. The system according to claim 27, wherein the clock is updated only when the comparison indicates that a station identified by the channel identification data is in the same time zone as the computer.

